

MINUTES
ELGIN CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING
ELGIN PUBLIC LIBRARY CIVIC CENTER COUNCIL CHAMBERS
404 NORTH MAIN STREET
November 24, 2020

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Ramirez called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Present: Ron Ramirez, Mayor
Jessica Bega, Mayor Pro Tem
Mary Penson, Council Member
Juan Gonzalez, Council Member
Susie Arreaga, Council Member
Sue Brashar, Council Member
Forest Dennis, Council Member

Mayor Ramirez certified there was a quorum.

Staff: Thomas L. Mattis, City Manager
Charles Cunningham, Finance Director
Michael Gonzalez, Parks Director
Amy Miller, Community
Owen Rock, EDC Director
David Harrell, Planning Director
Patrick South, Chief of Police
Pam Sanders, HR Director

INVOCATION

Council Member Penson gave the invocation.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Cynthia Burchfield spoke and stated that she never wanted this whole thing to get out of hand and felt that her voice was not heard. She stated that she did everything the right way and received the information legally and sat on the information from February until June because she lacked support. She stated she was told that the volunteer services were not welcome at the Police Department and that this was because she submitted a personal information request. She stated she was disappointed that an investigation is not going to happen as she feels there is a huge problem

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and liability. She stated a question she asked while on the hiring panel at PD was what was more important to have, integrity or loyalty. She stated that she was in contact with Jody Barr with KXAN and that he has the audios now, and would keep on with the media and help with the concerned citizens of Elgin, that have 423 signatures that want an external investigation plus 615 people who have signed up on the concerned citizens page.

Matthew Callahan spoke and stated he had been a resident of Elgin for 20 years and a business owner here since 2004. He stated he lives in Ward 3 and was throwing his hat in the ring to be part of the Council for Ward 3 and hoped he would be appointed.

PRESENTATION

1. Presentation of the Annual Audit Report for the period ending September 30, 2019 by BrooksWatson & Co. PLLC.

Mike Brooks with BrooksWatson & Co. provided the presentation of the Annual Audit Report for the period ending September 30, 2019.

CITY MANAGERS REPORT

1. Review of potential neighborhood traffic & safety upgrades at certain locations throughout the city.

City Manager Thomas Mattis spoke and stated that the report is a review of potential neighborhood traffic and safety upgrades at certain intersections in the community and an end product of a process that has been used in the city for quite some time. He stated that residents had reached out to their Council representatives regarding four different projects that was then sent to his office to look at with no demands or expectations, but just asking to consider the input they had received. He stated that the City Engineer went on site and considered the issues and thought about potential projects or improvements that were effective and attainable. Mr. Mattis stated that like any small town with limited resources concerns for traffic and safety solutions are not affordable and what concerns individuals may have about safety and traffic are not necessarily supported by the data or our own analysis. He stated in these cases there are four different projects that have been looked into and have developed items that in each case are affordable for the city utilizing city forces. Mr. Mattis stated that he had given Council some packets beforehand with the four different projects and numbered them that way. Mr. Mattis stated that the City Engineer was on speaker phone to help brief Council on each one of these projects. Mr. Mattis and the City Engineer, Beau Perry, went over what each project represents and what is being addressed, and improvements that are being proposed. This item was for discussion only and no action was taken.

2. Update on City Marshal operations.

City Manager Thomas Mattis stated that a couple of months ago during the final budget adoption some questions came up about the Marshall Program that he was not prepared for at that time, so he asked Chief South to come and give Council an update. Chief South stated that in 2003 the city contracted with MVBA to do collections for Municipal Court Systems. He stated that they went back four or five years on outstanding citations that had not been collected due to lack of staffing. He stated that the program had two part-time positions to come in and focus certain hours in a week and collecting those within the city because most warrants are outside the city limits. He stated it was hard to keep the Marshall positions filled because they are part-time positions and that one stayed vacant for about a year. He stated the company they are using only sends out a letter and a card which has low turnout and that he and the Finance Director were looking into other companies with a higher success rate.

3. Review and Discussion of upcoming City Council Meeting Schedule.

City Manager Thomas Mattis stated that the last couple of months between COVID-19, the election date and canvassing the ballots there had been a delay in meetings. He stated that he and the Mayor discussed this and the regular schedule would have a meeting next week but due to the holidays they were proposing have one meeting in December on the 15th, then in January go back to the regular schedule on the first and third Tuesday of the month.

4. Review and Discussion of process for (A) Election of Mayor Pro-Tem, (B) Appointments to City Boards & Commissions, and (C) Possible Appointment(S) to vacant Ward 3 Council Seat(S).

Mr. Mattis stated that there were appointments to be made, a Mayor Pro Tem, and the Ward 3 Council seats, as well as discussion for appointments and re-appointments to the Boards and Committees. He stated that these items would be on the agenda on December the 15th.

5. Departmental Monthly Reports - October

There were no questions or comments on the monthly reports.

CONSENT AGENDA

1. City Council Meeting Minutes.

City Council Meeting Minutes - September 22, 2020, City Council Meeting Minutes - October 13, 2020 and City Council Meeting Minutes - October 27, 2020.

Council Member Brashar moved to approve the Consent Agenda. Council Member Penson seconds the motion. Motion carried 7-0.

NEW BUSINESS

1. PURSUANT TO ARTICLE III, SECTION 13 OF THE ELGIN HOME RULE CHARTER, THIS IS AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE DECLARING THAT A PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY EXISTS BECAUSE OF THE WORLD-WIDE COVID-19 PANDEMIC; ESTABLISHING REQUIREMENTS RELATED TO THE POSTING OF A PUBLIC NOTICE BY COMMERCIAL ENTITIES AND THE WEARING OF FACE COVERINGS AND PROVIDING FOR A SAVINGS CLAUSE AND REPEALING CONFLICTING ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS.

Council Member Penson moved to approve the Ordinance as presented. Council Member Dennis seconds the motion. Motion carried 7-0.

2. A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF ELGIN, TEXAS AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO EXECUTE AN AGREEMENT WITH TRC ENGINEERS INC. FOR PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERING SERVICES RELATED TO THE COUNTY LINE ROAD ROADWAY AND DRAINAGE PROJECT, PHASE 1 AND MAKING CERTAIN FINDINGS RELATED THERETO.

Council Member Brashar moved to approve the Resolution as presented. Council Member Penson seconds the motion. Motion carried 7-0.

3. A RESOLUTION OF CITY OF ELGIN TEXAS, AUTHORIZING THE AWARD OF AN ENGINEERING SERVICE PROVIDER CONTRACT FOR THE TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE 2021/2022 FY COMMUNITY DEVELOPEMNT BLOCK GRANT STATEWIDE COMPETITION.

Council Member Penson moved to approve the Resolution as presented. Mayor Pro Tem Bega seconds the motion. Motion carried 7-0.

4. RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ELGIN, TEXAS APPROVING THE ELGIN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION APPLICATION FOR A LOAN OF \$2,087,000 FROM FIRST NATIONAL BANK AND TO APPROVE THE EDC DIRECTOR TO SIGN ALL DOCUMENTS RELATED TO THE LOAN.

Council Member Dennis moved to approve the Resolution as presented. Council Member Penson seconds the motion. Motion carried 7-0.

5. A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF ELGIN, TEXAS AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO EXECUTE AN ELGIN PARK TERMS OF USE AGREEMENT WITH THE ELGIN FARMERS' MARKET; AND PROVIDING FOR RELATED MATTERS.

Council Member Penson moved to approve the Resolution as presented. Council Member Dennis seconds the motion. Motion carried 7-0.

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6. A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF ELGIN, TEXAS ESTABLISHING OFFICIAL CITY OF ELGIN HOLIDAYS FOR THE PERIOD OF OCTOBER 1, 2020 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30, 2021; AND PROVIDING FOR RELATED MATTERS.

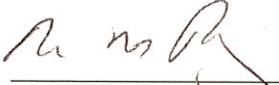
Mayor Pro Tem Bega moved to approve the Resolution as presented. Council Member Penson seconds the motion. Motion carried 7-0.

7. AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 44, ARTICLE II CODE OF ORDINANCES, CITY OF ELGIN, TEXAS, BY AMENDING DIVISION ONE, RESIDENTIAL REQUIREMENTS, NON-RESIDENTIAL AND MULTIFAMILY RESIDENTIAL REQUIREMENTS, AND IRRIGATION; PROVIDING FOR A SAVINGS CLAUSE AND REPEALING CONFLICTING ORDINANCES OR RESOLUTIONS.

Council Member Penson moved to approve the Ordinance as presented. Council Member Dennis seconds the motion. Motion carried 7-0.

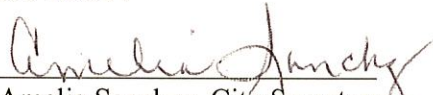
ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Ramirez adjourned the City Council Meeting at 9:47 pm.



Ron M. Ramirez, Mayor

ATTEST:



Amelia Sanchez, City Secretary